

Georgia Southern University

## Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

---

Georgia Association for Positive Behavior  
Support Conference

---

### Building a Stronger Community Alliance through My Brother's Keeper

Dr. Thaddeus L. Shubert

*Burke County Public Schools*, [tshubert@burke.k12.ga.us](mailto:tshubert@burke.k12.ga.us)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/gapbs>

---

#### Recommended Citation

Shubert, Dr. Thaddeus L., "Building a Stronger Community Alliance through My Brother's Keeper" (2018).  
*Georgia Association for Positive Behavior Support Conference*. 71.  
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/gapbs/2018/2018/71>

This event is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences & Events at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Georgia Association for Positive Behavior Support Conference by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu).

Save Our Sons Symposium: Building a Stronger Community Alliance Proposal

Mr. Rudy Falana, Superintendent  
Burke County Public Schools  
789 Burke Veterans Parkway  
Waynesboro, Georgia 30830

S.O.S.

Save Our Sons Symposium:

Building a Stronger Community Alliance Proposal

The Impact of Incarceration, Detention, Accidental Death and Murder Rates  
on Black Males in Burke County, Georgia 2013 -2017

Submitted by

Dr. Thaddeus L. Shubert

Professional School Counselor

Burke County Public Schools

February 15, 2018

## I. INTRODUCTION

This proposal will address the concerns of Mr. Rudy Falana, Burke County Public School System's Superintendent about the rising rate of Black Burke County males under the age of 25 years who have been incarcerated, detained, murdered and/or accidental death victims during the past 5 years (2013 – 2017).

Information will be collected from city, county and state law enforcement agencies to demonstrate a co-relation between the target population and death and incarceration rate. Then the data will be analyzed by the Georgia Southern University Statistical Consulting Unit (SCU).

The purpose of this proposal is to create a roundtable discussion to be hosted by the district superintendent to create an Alliance of community stakeholders to effect positive change in our school district for the next generation of Black Males in Burke County, Georgia.

Finally, the presentation will recommend the establishment of a My Brother's Keeper Alliance in Burke County with Mr. Falana serving as Tribal Leader.

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

President Obama launched My Brother's Keeper in February 2014 to address persistent opportunity gaps facing boys and young men of color. To scale and sustain its mission, the My Brother's Keeper Alliance was launched as a private sector entity in 2015. The My Brother's Keeper Alliance, along with cross-sector partners, will work to accelerate impact in targeted communities, mobilize citizens and resources, and promote what works — all with the goal of encouraging mentorship, reducing youth violence, and improving life outcomes for boys and young men of color (<https://www.obama.org/mbka/>).

To ensure all young people can reach their full potential and as part of the Foundation's mission to inspire and empower the next generation leaders (<https://www.obama.org/mbka/>) this work continues as an initiative of the Obama Foundation.

## III. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The 2017 Black male population in Burke County, Georgia is 5,262. During the past five years 2013-2017 there were 857 Black males 25 years of age and under who were detained and/or incarcerated in juvenile and adult facilities. The absence of fathers, sons, brothers, uncles, and cousins has had a devastating impact on society.

According to [www.scholarsstrategynetwork.org](http://www.scholarsstrategynetwork.org) (2016) the social reverberations of mass incarceration do not stop with the prisoners themselves. The consequences can be even greater for children, family members, and associates attached to those who are imprisoned. A burgeoning research literature suggests that having a family member sent to prison damages the mental and physical health of those left at home. The imprisonment of a family member

## Save Our Sons Symposium: Building a Stronger Community Alliance Proposal

means one less person to contribute to household support, increasing stress and making everyone less economically secure.

Although researchers have documented these indirect social impacts from imprisonment, they have been unable before now to estimate how many adult women and men are connected to an inmate – and therefore, have not been able to specify the scope of negative consequences faced by people tied to America’s prisoners.

Burke County, GA consists of the city seat, Waynesboro along with Sardis, Midville, Girard, Vidette, the imprisonment and death rates negatively impact the family unit and society in general because many families become dependent on the system to subsidize the relative’s physical, emotional and financial contributions.

### IV. RESEARCH METHODS (Data Collection)

Burke County Sheriff’s Office    Black Males age 17-25 incarcerated in 2013-2017

Department of Juvenile Justice    Black Males age 16 and under incarcerate in 2013-2017

Burke County Coroner’s Office    Black Males age 17-25 murdered in 2013-2017

### V. TENTATIVE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Wednesday, May 2, 2018 9:00 AM    BCPS Teaching and Learning Center

S.O.S Symposium- Save our Sons: Building a Stronger Community Alliance

\*Light refreshments to be served

\*Invitations will be designed and submitted to Ms. Williams for approval.

#### Community Stakeholders

Burke County Sheriff’s Office	Chamber of Commerce
Department of Juvenile Justice	First Baptist Church
BCPS Board Members	First National Bank, Jessie Palmer II
Waynesboro Police Department	Judge Flannagan
Probation Office	Matt Franklin, Solicitor
Communities in Schools of Burke County/Family Connection Inc.,	
Burke County Coroner’s Office	BC Life Center Ambassadors
Mayors: Waynesboro, Midville, Sardis, Girard, Keysville	
Cornerstone Church	Phillip Grove Missionary Baptist
Church	Noah’s Ark
Optimist Club	Exchange Club
Toastmaster Club International	BC High School Ambassadors
Jackson Cox, Accountability Court	Audrey Lewis, District Attorney Ofc.
Moderator Rennetta Dubose, WJBF News 6	

Milestones of My Brother's Keeper Alliance (<https://www.obama.org/mbka/>)

Everyone has a role to play in ensuring all of our nation's young people have equal access to opportunity. In order to develop holistic support systems and improve life outcomes for boys and young men of color, we unite business, philanthropy, nonprofit, government, community, youth, and other influencers in support of tomorrow's leaders.

Our collaborative, cross-sectoral approach, which is both national and local in scope, is guided by the belief that there are six milestones along the life path that serve as key indicators of future success. Interventions at the following critical points are vital to fostering inter-generational improvements and creating lasting change:

- **Entering School Ready to Learn**: All school-aged children should have a healthy start and enter school cognitively, physically, socially, and emotionally prepared to learn.  
**Recognition of Early Headstart Father Figures with Breakfast on the Go, Lunch and Learn, and Super with SuperStars**
- **Reading at Grade Level by Third Grade**: All children should be reading at grade level by age 8, the age at which reading is solidified as a truly essential, foundational component of ongoing learning. **Reading is FUNdamental with BES and SGA 3<sup>rd</sup> graders**
- **Graduating from High School Ready for College and Career**: All young adults should have the option to attend postsecondary education equipped with skills for continued success.  
**CTAE College and Career Expo for BCHS Juniors and Seniors**
- **Completing Post-Secondary Education or Training**: All young adults should receive the education and training needed for quality jobs of today and tomorrow. **Bear Applause Celebration for Dual Enrollment, Technical College and College Graduates.**
- **Successfully Entering the Workforce**: All individuals who want a job should be able to secure and sustain employment that allows them to support themselves and their families.  
**Workforce Entry Workshop with Employable Residents**
- **Reducing Violence and Providing a Second Chance**: All children should be safe from violent crime. Individuals who are confined should receive the education, training, and treatment they need for a second chance. **Establish a Student –Officer Alliance at WPS, BES, SGA, BCMS/BCAS, BCHS, and BCHS**